

FACT SHEET



Bruno Co-op Site Bruno, Nebraska

June 2000

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

EPA will hold an informal meeting,

Tuesday, June 13, 2000

5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Bruno Village Hall

Bruno, Nebraska

EPA staff will be available to answer your questions about the site, one-on-one. You may attend the meeting at your convenience between 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

There will be a 30-day public comment period regarding the modification to the selected remedy. This comment period opens June 13, 2000, and closes July 13, 2000.

Written comments can be made to EPA at the meeting on June 13 or submitted to:

Diane Huffman, EPA
Office of External Programs
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66101
Fax: 913-551-7066
E-mail: huffman.diane@epa.gov

Written comments should be post-marked
no later than July 13, 2000.

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is announcing a modification to the selected remedy to address contamination at the Bruno Co-op site in Bruno, Nebraska. The site is located on the northwest edge of Bruno.

This fact sheet provides background information on the site and a description of the modification to the remedy.

SITE BACKGROUND

The Nebraska Department of Health (NDOH) discovered groundwater contamination in late 1984 during routine sampling of Bruno's public water supply wells. Additional groundwater sampling of the public water supply wells confirmed the presence of these volatile organic compounds (VOCs): carbon tetrachloride, chloroform, and 1,2-dichloroethane. These chemicals have also been found in soil where the Commodity Credit Corporation/United States Department of Agriculture operated a grain storage facility at the site. The chemicals were used for grain fumigation.

EPA supplied bottled water to the Bruno residents from May 1989 until two new public water supply wells were completed in 1990. In June 1996, the Bruno Co-op site was placed on the EPA's National Priorities List (NPL), a list

of top priority sites in the country eligible for cleanup under EPA's Superfund program.

In 1998, EPA issued a Record of Decision (ROD). The ROD, which explains how the groundwater contamination at the site will be addressed, called for the following actions to be taken:

- Pump and treat contaminated groundwater to restore the groundwater for future use;
- Monitor the groundwater contamination and periodically review the results from the monitoring to determine the effectiveness of the pump and treat system;
- Treat the contaminated groundwater pumped out of the ground by air stripping using tray aeration;
- Discharge the treated groundwater to a nearby tributary of Skull Creek. Some water may be made available to appropriate state or local authorities for beneficial reuse rather than be discharged.
- Abandon former public water supply well 36-1 in accordance with state requirements and return public water supply well 65-1 to use as a source of drinking water in times of high demand.

Implementation of the remedy was delayed so that a new technology, groundwater circulating wells (GCW), could be evaluated for possible use at the site. This technology allows the contaminated groundwater to be treated below ground and then pumped back into the aquifer. One advantage this technology has over the conventional pump and treat system selected in the ROD is that the treated water is returned to the aquifer instead of discharged at the surface. Based on the evaluation of the new technology, EPA concluded that the original remedy, as described in the ROD, was more effective and efficient than GCW technology would be at this site.

EXPLANATION OF SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES

While evaluating the effectiveness and the cost of the GCW technology, EPA also updated the cost of the remedy selected in the ROD. The updated cost estimate for the remedy is \$1,694,209, \$637,209 more than the original cost estimate made in 1998. The cost difference is the result of a significantly more detailed estimate and the increase in costs over a two-year time period. Although the cost of the remedy has changed, the remedy selected in 1998 remains the same. EPA has issued a document known as an Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) that describes the modification. The public is asked to provide comments on this modification to EPA during the 30-day public comment period from June 13, 2000, to July 13, 2000.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

A file containing the ROD, ESD and other site-related documents, called the Administrative Record File, is available for public review at the following information repositories during normal business hours:

Bruno Post Office
Bruno, Nebraska

U.S. EPA Region 7
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas

If you have questions or need additional information about this site, please contact:

Diane Huffman, Community Involvement Coordinator
Office of External Programs
EPA Region 7
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66101
1-913-551-7003, Toll-free 1-800-223-0425
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